January 31, 2002

Patrick O'Donnell
Clerk of the Legislature
State Capitol
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

Subject: Project Status Summary (December 31, 2001)

Dear Mr. O'Donnell:

Section 86-1510 requires the Chief Information Officer to report the status of enterprise projects to the NITC, the Governor, and the Legislature. Section 81-1196.01 also requires semi-annual progress reports for enterprise projects funded through the Information Technology Infrastructure Fund (ITIF).

NITC guidelines for project status reporting apply to any project using funds appropriated from the Information Technology Infrastructure Fund and to all non-education state agencies with projects that cost $250,000 or more. The Nebraska Information System was the only project to expend funds from the ITIF through December 31, 2001.

Agencies submitted status reports on the following projects for the reporting period ending December 31, 2001:
    DAS – Communications; Public Safety Wireless System RFP Process
    DAS – Nebraska Information System (NIS)
    Crime Commission – CJIS Project
    Fire Marshal – Web based applications
    Health and Human Services – Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) and NFOCUS projects
    NETC: 901 Satellite System, 902 Neb*Sat, 909 NTSC Transmitter Replacements, 911 Satellite
                   Transponder, 916 Public Radio Construction, 918 Falls City Translator Tower, 913
                   Carpenter Telecommunications Center Renovation, 919 DTV Project, 991 UNO TV
                   Equipment Replacement;
    Retirement: NPERS Information Technology Project
    Roads: Nebraska Online Truck Permit Issuance System

A summary of information regarding these projects is attached. All status reports are available on a password-protected web site (http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/itpm/), with access by the Office of the CIO, Legislative Fiscal Office and Budget Division.

Please contact me, if you have any questions or if there are other projects that should submit project status reports.

Sincerely,

Steve Schafer
Chief Information Officer

Attachment

Copy: Senator Bromm
         Senator Wehrbein

Administrative Services Department
NEBRASKA INFORMATION SYSTEM (NIS)

After an extended delay for contract negotiations, work on the NIS project began on August 13.
Below are the target completion dates for the five phases of the project:

Phase 1 Financials and Purchasing	July 2002
Phase 2 HR & Payroll	January 2003
Phase 3 Capital Projects and Grants	August 2002
Phase 4 Budgeting	June 2002
Phase 5 Inventory	December 2002

An independent IBM team conducted a project management review at the end of November. The
purpose of the review was to confirm that sound project management procedures were in place.
The status report dated December 14, 2001, concluded that "the project is under control, is in
budget and on schedule." The IBM team made several findings and recommendations. These
included:

- The initial workplan was not in place;
- Issue management exists, but should be incorporated into status meetings and project
  procedures;
- Determine project risks, mitigation strategies and contingency plans;
- Document the communications plan.

A copy of the report is available on the project management web site (http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/itpm/).
Since then, the project team has prepared a detailed work plan, which project management is
tracking closely. The NIS team has also begun producing a weekly "project scorecard" which
provides a quick assessment of overall project health. Copies will be posted to the project
management web site.

In addition to monthly meetings of the NIS Steering Committee, the NIS project presented an
update to the Technical Panel and the NITC in October. Another report is set for the February
Technical Panel and NITC meetings. These meetings address progress in meeting the conditions
established by the NITC as part of its approval of the NIS project plan. A list of the conditions
are included in the minutes of the May 23 NITC meeting (http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/nitc/). The
resolution assigns the CIO responsibility to monitor these conditions.

Administrative Services Department – Division of Communications
PUBLIC SAFETY WIRELESS SYSTEM RFP PROCESS

In October 2001, the NITC approved a project plan that included vendor selection and contract
negotiation. The project status report indicates that the project is on schedule, within budget and
on target to meeting objectives and requirements. All milestones have been completed for the
Request For Proposal (RFP) process, except the final step of completing contract negotiations

with the selected vendor. The remaining milestone is scheduled for completion by February 15, 2002.

Crime Commission
CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM (CJIS)

CJIS funds and sponsors a number of projects. These include projects that either involve or directly affect both state and local agencies. Many factors affecting project completion are out of the control of CJIS (a cooperative project that implements programs and projects on a voluntary basis) or that are dependent upon outside resources being available. As such, CJIS continues to move forward on all of its various subprojects but cannot necessarily control many of the factors relating to them.

The project status report discusses progress on four subprojects:
1) VINE is an automated victim notification system. It is currently in full statewide use (The Department of Correctional Services as well as all county and city jails participating). Data is also extracted and pushed to NCJIS for statewide access. Work was done with Sarpy County and Printrak, their new software vendor, to implement data consistent with current VINE and NCJIS needs. Since implementation in May, 1999, VINE activity has had steady use with 31,716 calls to VINE inquiring about an offender's status; 3,357 people registering for notification and 3,067 notifications (2,247 confirmed). At any given time there are approximately 300 people registered to be notified about an offender leaving secure custody.
2) NCJIS is a secure Internet based data mart for criminal justice professionals. It allows verified users to access indexed information including jail bookings, Patrol Criminal Histories (PCH), sex offender registry (SOR), probation, corrections/parole, physical searches, a database for sharing agency resources and driver histories. Photo extracts from 64 jails are in place and mugshots are being posted to jail records on NCJIS. Additional training was held for local agencies and approximately 150 agencies now have access to NCJIS. In this reporting period we have added protection order information to NCJIS. This information, consistent with data posted to NCIS, is extracted from JUSTICE whenever court personnel enter issuance or service data. Additionally, two other systems have been added that do not include new data. One is a newsgroup feature that will allow users to post questions, general announcements or job listings. The other is a transportation module, developed in conjunction with the Nebraska Sheriffs Association, that agencies can post upcoming travel on to try and develop shared transport of prisoners by agencies.
3) Sleuth is a law enforcement records management system (RMS). CJIS has procured, through state contract, 100 licenses to allow local agencies to use this so there can be a standard, approved system that meets state and federal reporting needs as well as integration objectives. By assisting agencies in selection and implementation it will ease the problems many agencies meet in dealing with commercial companies. We have continued to add functionality and complete NIBRS testing. Through December approximately 55 agencies have been trained on Sleuth. The vendor has also hired a second local installation and support person. This will provide better training, response and initial support for local agencies. In October we hosted the first Nebraska Sleuth Users Group Meeting, which provided an ideal opportunity for interaction between agencies, the vendors and state personnel.
4) Prosecution Automation -- As with law enforcement, many prosecutors do not have automation in their offices. This hurts local data handling but also hinders integration.

Paralleling the Sleuth acquisition we developed a Request For Proposal (RFP) (using a subcommittee of county attorneys, courts and the Attorney General's office) to get a state contract for a commercial package to be used in local offices and extract data for use in JUSTICE, criminal histories and other sections of the criminal justice cycle. The RFP was issued in August and we received 14 proposals. Reviews led to four vendors being invited to Lincoln in December for live demonstrations. An announcement of contract award is scheduled for January 2002.

5) CJIS Technology Conference-We hosed the 3rd annual CJIS Technology Conference in October. The 150 attendees were able to discuss state and local initiatives as well as see vendor's products. Private and government initiatives were highlighted.

Plans for the next reporting period include awarding a contract for the prosecutor software and continued installations of Sleuth.

Educational Telecommunications Commission (NETC)
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS AND CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The table, below, summarizes the status of the nine projects at the NETC:

Project Title	Project Status			Comments
	On Schedule	Within Budget	In Scope	
Program 901 Satellite System	No	Yes	Yes	This program encompasses a great deal of technical activity. All of the capital purchases for the Neb*Sat system are included in this program (901). Five projects are continuing from the prior biennium (Concord Interconnect, NET Classroom Upgrade, Video on Demand Phase 2, Network 3 Upgrade, and Network 3 Expansion). A sixth project, satellite dish matching grants, may not be needed. Network 3 expansion is physically and fiscally complete
Program 902 Neb*Sat	Yes	Yes	Yes	This program encompasses 5 Neb*Sat projects. All of the new capital purchases for the Neb*Sat system are included in this program (902).
Program 909 NTSC Transmitter Replacements	Yes	Yes	Yes	The multi-transmitter bid responses have been received and are under evaluation. It is expected that the bid for all transmitters will be awarded in this quarter, with delivery in subsequent quarters.
Program 911 Satellite Transponder Lease	Yes	Yes	Yes	The DTV satellite encoding system is in the process of upgrade. When complete, transponder 4 will be completely full. NET intends to migrate MCPC traffic to transponder 2.
Program 913 Carpenter Telecommunications Center Renovation	Yes	Yes	Yes	The original program statement was based on operational needs and was a thorough look at what NETC saw as the future direction it needed to take. The actual budget awarded was scaled back from the original plan. This has made it necessary to conduct an abbreviated examination of the program statement. We need to compare the original to the Legislative intent of LB 542.
Program 916 Public Radio Construction	Yes	Yes	Yes	The transmitter has been installed, tested and the FCC has awarded a final license for the new

				channel assignment. This project is now complete and will no longer be reported on.
Program 918 Falls City Translator Tower	Yes	Yes	Yes	The new tower was constructed; all antennas and transmission lines were moved to the new tower; and the old tower was removed. All work is done, but still waiting on the final FCC license.
Program 919 DTV Project Hardware purchase and system upgrade	Yes	Yes	Yes	At this time, adequate funding has been secured for the transmissions and retransmissions portions of the DTV Construction project. Adequate funding is not in place at this time to fully fund the digital production conversion. The production conversion project will be phased-in as federal and other funding sources, as well as actual costs, become known.
Program 991 UNO TV Equipment Replacement	Yes	Yes	Yes	This is a one-time operational fund to allow UNO Television to purchase a video server. An initial purchase order has been issued.

State Fire Marshal
WEB BASED APPLICATIONS

The project status report indicates that Phase I of the project is behind schedule, over budget, and is not meeting objectives and requirements. The agency will review the entire project in February and will focus on only the essential and most beneficial items. Other issues include Internet security and relationship to NIS.

Health and Human Services System
CHARTS II

The CHARTS / SDU Integration Steering Committee meets bi-weekly. In conjunction with these meetings, the project team submits a general update on major issues and project status reports on large components of the project. These reports are available on the Project Status Reporting Web Site (http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/itpm/).

Major developments during the last six months include:
1. Independent verification and validation. The TRW consulting firm conducted its third review of the CHARTS project in September. The full report and a summary are available on an internal web site: http://imsweb01.ims.state.ne.us/cio/independent.htm
2. The focus of work on the CHARTS application for the reporting period was testing and data conversion. That was accomplished and all critical defects were resolved prior to implementation in December.
3. The CHARTS II application went live at the end of December.

Part of the project team will continue to assist with implementation of CHARTS II and the State Disbursement Unit. The rest of the project team has begun work on enhancements to CHARTS that are necessary to meet federal PRWORA requirements. A project plan has been developed to guide that work.

Health and Human Services System
MMIS

The project status report indicates that the project is on schedule, and on target to meet objectives, but expenditures are over budget. It is anticipated that contractor costs will drop as more work is transferred to the HIPAA project. The report on the status of the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) includes a financial status, a HIPAA impact assessment, and a Gantt chart.   Progress during the reporting period included work on the following:

MMIS CSR Release Management. Three major MMIS CSR releases are planned prior to system freeze for HIPAA effort. CSR Release 4 was implemented on October 15, 2001 and CSR Release 5 was implemented on December 17, 2001.

MMIS Data Support. Dropped unnecessary indexes on production database tables to eliminate redundancies and save DASD space. Identified performance opportunities in several programs and created CSR's to implement the changes. Provided on-call support throughout the period. Ongoing project.

HIPAA. Received approval from CMS on the HIPAA Implementation Advance Planning Document (APD) on November 2, 2001. EDI Translator RFP was finalized and released on November 15, 2001. The Proposal Evaluation Plan for the translator was completed on December 14, 2001. Requirements Validation meetings were conducted on the 837D, 837I, 837P and 835 during October thru December. National EDI and Nebraska SNIP workgroups continue to be monitored. MMIS HIPAA Oversight and Steering Committees were established and meetings are in progress.

ValueOptions. This project modifies the MMIS to allow the processing and payment of claims currently processed by ValueOptions. The project will be completed in four stages. The first stage, implemented on December 4, 2001, suspended the claim with ValueOptions services instead of denying payment. The second stage, scheduled January 16, 2002, will implement the pricing methods for Outpatient and HCFA1500 Services. The third stage, scheduled January 31, 2002, will implement the pricing methods for Inpatient, Home Health, and Outpatient Observation Services. The fourth and final stage will accept and process against the ValueOptions authorizations.

Medicaid Managed Care Support. Activities include continuing encounter data, enrollment broker support, and client notifications. Mutual of Omaha's Wellness Option has discontinued its contract with the Nebraska Medicaid Managed Care Program. The conversion was completed on October 4, 2001.

Health and Human Services System
N-FOCUS

The project status report indicates that the project is on schedule, within budget, and on target to meet objectives. The report on the status of the N-FOCUS system includes financial status, monthly benefits / payments summary, priorities, and Gantt chart.

N-FOCUS is currently implementing five very large projects: 1) Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) for Food Stamps, 2) incorporation of Developmental Disabilities (DD) system functionality with the demise of their ECHO system, 3) A78 which completes the conversion of

the Expert System software (AION) from version 7 to version 8, 4) creating a new print architecture and 5) implementing system changes related to the Nebraska Family Portrait. Our ability to respond to any new projects will be limited by the workload we are currently experiencing and reduced staff due to budget constraints. Nevertheless, N-FOCUS has been responding to a new technical issue of using Windows 2000 operating system vs. NT (which is the operating system for both N-FOCUS and CHARTS).

The next planned N-FOCUS release is scheduled for February 11, 2002. Example of functionality scheduled for this release:
1) Final functionality for the federally required EBT (Electronic Benefit Transfer) for the Food Stamp program. (A major federal review of EBT functionality is scheduled for December 2001. February 2002 is scheduled for the pilot implementation.)
2) Nebraska Family Portrait initiative: enhancement to the child welfare narratives (spell check and increased space), reports
3) SACWIS/AFCARS: changes to support federally mandated requirements for child welfare
4) Batch sweep age alerts (may be implemented even sooner)
5) Redesign of office management function to allow supervisors to update their own supervisory unit online (currently must go through the Help Desk)

Public Employees Retirement Systems
NPERS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT

The project status report for the quarter ending September 30, 2001 indicates that Phase II of the project is on schedule, within budget, and on target to meeting objectives and requirements. There are no issues that pose additional risk or problem areas encountered. A set of spreadsheets attached to the report provides detailed expenditure information for eight projects that are components of the entire system.

Accomplishments during this reporting period include:
1. Continue work and complete CSA on Benefits Processing.
2. Continue work and complete GAP analysis on Benefits Processing.
3. Continue work and complete Benefits Processing prototype system.
4. Complete Benefits Processing prototype review.
5. Finalize concept of operations for DC plan processing with Ameritas.
6. Finalize concept of operations for interfacing with NIS on general ledger processing.
7. Finalize concept of operations for external interfaces to DB plan processing.
8. Implement Workflow Database System into production environment.

Department of Roads
NEBRASKA ONLINE TRUCK PERMIT ISSUANCE SYSTEM

The project status report for the period ending December 31, 2001, indicates that the project is behind schedule, but within budget and on target to meeting objectives and requirements. A working prototype was completed on time, but subsequent phases are waiting legal approval of liability language for word order 2 and beyond.